

REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 18-28, and 30 are pending. The drawings have been amended. No new matter has been added by way of this amendment. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

According to the Advisory Action dated September 8, 2003, the Response filed August 18, 2003 was incomplete because it failed to respond to the objection to the drawings. In response, Applicants have provided replacement sheets for the drawings that include amendments which specifically address each objection. No new matter has been added by way of this amendment. Accordingly, entry of the amended drawings to the application is warranted, and a notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has refused entry of the Amendment filed on August 18, 2003, because the claims allegedly raised the issue of new matter. According to the Examiner, "claims 17 and 29 and the specification do not support the first chamber having conductive foam."

With respect to the foregoing statement, Applicants respectfully assert that no new matter was introduced by the Amendment of August 18, 2003. In support of this, Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to Figs. 4 and 5, as well as the following text which is found in the application as originally filed.

"Figure 4 is a diagram illustrating a cross-sectional view of chambers 12 and 13 in an embodiment of the monitor 20 according to the invention. From bottom to top, the chamber (12 or 13) comprises an SSNTD film (112 or 113), a metallized MYLAR sheet (122 or 123), an O-shaped

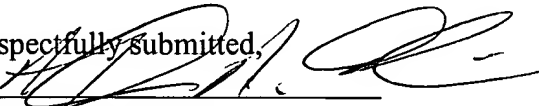
insert (82 or 83), a diffusion barrier (102 or 103), an O-ring seal (92 or 93), a cap (72 or 73) with a conducting foam (142 or 143), and a screw thread closure (132 or 133) for receiving the cap. The conducting foam prevents entry of the radon and thoron decay products and protects the detection chamber from nuisance dust. The diffusion barrier serves to prevent entry of thoron into the chambers 12 and 13, which is made of numerous materials, including electrically conducting 3 mil Mylar film" (see page 8, lines 1 thru 8 of the specification).

"Figure 5 a diagram illustrating a cross-sectional view of chamber 11 in an embodiment of the monitor 20 according to the invention. Chamber 11 is generally the same as chambers 12 and 13 as shown in Figure 4, except that chamber 11 does not include the diffusion barrier. From bottom to top, the chamber 11 comprises an SSNTD film 111, a metallized MYLAR sheet 121, an O-shaped insert 81, an O-ring seal 91, a cap 71 with a conducting foam 141, and a screw thread closure 131 for receiving the cap 71. The conducting foam prevents entry of the radon and thoron decay products and protects the detection chamber from nuisance dust" (see page 9, lines 7 thru 14 of the specification).

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully assert that the specification and the drawings provide support for the first chamber having conductive foam. In fact, all three chambers have conductive foam, which is consistent with the claims as currently amended and the current drawings. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment filed August 18, 2003 is in order and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. Early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. However, if there are any questions regarding this response, or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this would expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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